

Message Text

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O*IGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:CLDARIS:IW

APPROVED BY AF:AMBASSADOR ROSS

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USIA/IAA,HDAWSON (DRAFT)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 020094

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: SCUL,PINS, NG

SUBJ: GON DEMAND FOR PAO RECALL

REF: NIAMEY 287

1. AGREE WITH POST'S RECOMMENDATION TO WITHDRAW MCHALE. YOU SHOULD FOLLOW THE LINE PROPOSED IN PARAGRAPH (7) REFTTEL, ADDING THAT USG, IN THE ABSENCE OF AN EXPLANATION FOR GON "LOSS OF CONFIDENCE" IN MCHALE, FINDS IT DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND DIORI'S REASONING AND REGRETS HIS ACTION. NEVERTHELESS, IN VIEW OF THE PRESIDENT'S INSISTENCE YOU MAY SAY THAT WE HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO WITHDRAW HIM. (FYI: YOU MAY NEGOTIATE TIMING AS BEST YOU CAN TO MINIMIZE HARDSHIP ON MCHALE AND FAMILY, BUT HE SHOULD LEAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 8. USIA IS SENDING ORDERS SEPARATELY. END FYI)

2. THE SUBJECT OF THE FUTURE OF THE CULTURAL CENTER SHOULD BE AVOIDED. IF ASKED, YOU SHOULD ONLY SAY THAT NO DECISION HAS BEEN REACHED. IN THE MEANTIME, PLEASE PROVIDE US SOONEST WITH YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE DESIRABILITY OF MAINTAINING THE CENTER IN NIAMEY. SHOULD IT BE CLOSED? SHOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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A VASTLY CURTAILED PROGRAM, SUPERVISED BY EMBASSY PERSONNEL, BE CONTINUED? OR SHOULD A NEW PAO BE SENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE? IF YOU RECOMMEND CONTINUATION OF THE CENTER IN SOME FORM, PLEASE DESCRIBE ROLE YOU VIEW CENTER AS

NOW PLAYING AND YOUR ASSESSMENT OF IMPACT ON THIS ROLE OF
THREATENED GON ACTION TO ENFORCE "STRICTER CONTROLS"
ON CENTER.

3. PRESS GUIDANCE IS BEING PREPARED HERE FOR USE ON IF-
ASKED BASIS AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO YOU WHEN CLEARED. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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